

COASTAL CONSERVANCY

Staff Recommendation

May 18, 2005

SAN DIEGO RIVER CONSERVANCY INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT

File No. 05-047

Project Manager: Regine Serrano

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Authorization for the Executive Officer of the Conservancy to provide administrative and other staff services to and on behalf of the San Diego River Conservancy, and to accept reimbursement for the cost of those services.

LOCATION: Oakland and San Diego

PROGRAM CATEGORY: Administration

EXHIBITS

Exhibit 1: Draft Interagency Agreement

RESOLUTION AND FINDINGS:

Staff recommends that the State Coastal Conservancy adopt the following resolution pursuant to Sections 31103 of the Public Resources Code:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the Executive Officer to enter into an interagency agreement with the San Diego River Conservancy for \$305,712 to reimburse the Coastal Conservancy for costs associated with providing administrative and other staff services to the San Diego River Conservancy.”

PROJECT SUMMARY: The proposed action would authorize the Executive Officer to enter into an interagency agreement with the San Diego River Conservancy (“the SDRC”), to provide administrative and other staff services to the SDRC, and to accept up to \$305,712 in reimbursements from the SDRC for the cost of those staff services. Under the proposed interagency agreement, the Conservancy could assist the SDRC with various matters including accounting, human resources, procurement, budgeting, contracting, legal review and other services. The interagency agreement would be substantially in the form of Exhibit 1.

The San Diego River Conservancy is a two-person state agency established in 2003 to acquire and manage public lands along the San Diego River. The SDRC jurisdiction extends inland from the river mouth at Ocean Beach and overlaps the jurisdiction of the Coastal Conservancy. The mission of the SDRC is to provide recreational opportunities, open space, protection and restoration of wildlife habitat, wetland protection and restoration, and the protection and maintenance of the water quality of the San Diego River for all beneficial uses.

There are several other small conservancies like the SDRC, each of which has another, larger state agency assisting with administrative functions. These very small conservancies do not have the staffing to perform such functions themselves.

PROJECT FINANCING: Funding for this interagency agreement will come from the unencumbered balances of the Support Budget of the San Diego River Conservancy. The amount to be encumbered is based on actual expenditures to date as well as proposed expenditures through the end of the current fiscal year.

San Diego River Conservancy (funds to SCC) \$305,712

Funds reimbursed to the Coastal Conservancy will be deposited into the State Coastal Conservancy Fund (Fund 0565).

CONSISTENCY WITH CONSERVANCY'S ENABLING LEGISLATION:

Section 31104 of the Public Resources Code enables the Conservancy to accept financial support from public and private sources. The Conservancy's regulations authorize the Executive Officer to administer the affairs of the Conservancy and carry out the affairs of the Conservancy (14 Cal. Code Regs. § 13738).

**CONSISTENCY WITH CONSERVANCY'S STRATEGIC PLAN
GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:**

Goal 13B of the Conservancy's Strategic Plan suggests revision of the Conservancy's administrative procedures as may be necessary to meet the challenge of changing funding sources and programmatic mandates. The proposed interagency agreement would allow the Conservancy to recoup costs for services that it is currently providing to the SDRC.

COMPLIANCE WITH CEQA:

The proposed interagency agreement is not a project as that term is defined under 14 Cal. Code Regs. § 15378(b)(2). This subsection excludes from the definition of the term "project" "[c]ontinuing administrative or maintenance activities."